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Approved For Release 2000/08/29 : CIA-RDP79R00890A001200070004-3

NSC BRIEFING

7 July 1960

CONGO REPUBLIC

- I. Belgian officers are reported back in command of African troops after mutinies by at least two garrisons yesterday.
 - A. However, Premier Lumumba has removed the Belgian commander of the security forces, Gen. Emile Janssens.
- II. Mutinies occurred in areas of tribes loyal to President Kasavubu, Lumumba's political rival, but it is not clear how far tribesmen supported mutineers.
- III. Lumumba has promoted every soldier one rank and has called for measures against European officers and non-commissioned officers "at the base of this agitation."
- IV. Confusion and unrest may reduce the effectiveness of the security force, which has played a major role in containing recent tribal outbreaks.
- V. Europeans in the Congo are apprehensive and Belgian army units near Leopoldville have reportedly been alerted to intervene on behalf of Belgian nationals if necessary.

DOCUMENT NO. 5
NO CHANGE IN CLASS. LI
X DECLASSIFIED
DECLASSIFIED BY: [illegible]
DATE: 1-29-80
REF ID: A66372
CONFIDENTIAL 972044

Approved For Release 2000/08/29 : CIA-RDP79R00890A001200070004-3

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